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Office of the Mayor
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June 7, 2010

The Honorable Mary Nichols
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chair Nichols:

I am writing today to express my serious concerns over the recently-released staff recommendations regarding the Proposition 1B Emissions Reduction Program. While I greatly appreciate the hard work and effort that has been put into the bond funding program, and have personally witnessed the dedication and commitment of ARB staff in implementing your agency's various air quality programs, I strongly feel that this staff recommendation falls far short in an area of critical importance; namely, the shore power needs at the Port of Oakland.

On June 1st, I was pleased to be able to attend the ARB workshop in Oakland to discuss the Proposition 1B program with your staff. I appreciated the opportunity to join others from the region in voicing our collective disappointment that the staff recommendation included only \$23.9 million for the collaborative Port of Oakland and Bay Area Air Quality Management District application for shore power infrastructure. As you are well aware, the design and construction of new shore power infrastructure at the Port of Oakland will cost \$114 million in total. This is a tremendous challenge, and the ability of the Port to continue to deliver significant benefits to the region is at risk by dramatically underfunding the Port's application.

Moreover, I am troubled that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District applied for \$38 million for the Port of Oakland's shore power program and received a recommendation for only \$23.9 million over the two funding cycles. By comparison the South Coast ports received their full funding allotment, with all of the funds being made available immediately and not contingent on future prospective bond sales. To the best of my knowledge, ARB staff has not adequately explained the reasoning behind the dramatic discrepancy between the favoring of port-related emissions reductions projects in one region over another, and by extension the health of families and children that live in the Bay Area versus those in other regions of the state.

At the June 1st hearing, my comments to your staff complemented and echoed those voiced by others in our city, community, and region. Nearly two dozen individuals representing a broad spectrum of community, industry, business, legislative, and labor interests came out to forcefully express their disappointment that the application was so inadequate, and to ask that the full \$38 million application be funded for the Port's shore power needs.

I understand that ARB staff will be presenting their recommendations to you at your June 24th regular Board meeting. I ask you to seriously reconsider this preliminary staff recommendation and revisit the Port of Oakland's shore power program request. For the economic, environmental, and public health benefits that this funding will support, this is simply the right thing to do. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Ronald V. Dellums
Mayor

cc: Dan Sperling, California Air Resources Board
Ken Yeagar, California Air Resources Board
Dorene D'Adamo, California Air Resources Board
Barbara Riordan, California Air Resources Board
John Balmes, California Air Resources Board
Lydia Kennard, California Air Resources Board
Sandra Berg, California Air Resources Board
Ron Roberts, California Air Resources Board
John Telles, California Air Resources Board
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Victor Uno, President, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
James Head, First Vice President, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Margaret Gordon, Second Vice President, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Pam Calloway, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Gilda Gonzales, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Kenneth Katzoff, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Michael Lighty, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
Jack Broadbent, Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Senator Ellen Corbett
Senator Mark DeSaulnier
Senator Loni Hancock
Assemblymember Jerry Hill
Assemblymember Nancy Skinner
Assemblymember Sandré Swanson
Dr. Washington Burns, Prescott-Joseph Center
Josie Camacho, Alameda Labor Council, AFL-CIO
Michael Cunningham, Bay Area Council
Wil Hardee, Oakland African-American Chamber of Commerce
Mike Jacob, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Ellen Johnck, Bay Planning Coalition
Douglas Kimsey, Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Sugi Loni, Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
Gunnar Lundeborg, Sailors' Union of the Pacific
Scott Peterson, Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Lee Sandahl, International Longshore and Warehouse Union
Ellen Wyrick-Parkinson, West Oakland Resident/West Oakland Project Area Committee